Weekly British Colonist.

TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR. } VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1885. { VOLUME 26.

Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1885.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING IN TIME FOR THE MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY EXCEPT MONDAY

BY D. W. HIGGINS.

THE COLONIST BUILDING, GOVERNMENT ST.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

THE DAILY COLONIST—Per Year, (Postage Free to any part of Canada).....$10
Parts of a year at the same rate
Per Week (if delivered).....25 Cents.

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IN ORDERING THE WEEKLY COLONIST, TO INSURE DELIVERY, YOU SHOULD ENCLOSE THE AMOUNT OF SUBSCRIPTION IN POSTAGE STAMPS. MONEY ORDERS, COIN OR BANK BILLS. NO PAPERS LEAVE THIS OFFICE UNLESS THE SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN FIRST PAID, AND NO NOTICE IS TAKEN OF ANY ORDER THAT IS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY THE MONEY.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

Persons residing at a distance from Victoria, who may desire to insert a notice of Birth, Marriage or Death in *The Colonist*, must enclose with each notice Two DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS in P. O. Stamps, money order, bills or coin, to ensure insertion.

THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

NOTICE.

A SPECIAL EDITION FOR SOUTH SANICH, LAKE, METCHOSIN, SOOKE, COWICHAN AND OTHER DISTRICTS NOT REACHED BY PER-DAY'S MAIL IS PRINTED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING AND DISPATCHED THROUGH THE POSTOFFICE.

Local and Provincial News.

From the Daily Colonist, May 15.

THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

The attention of subscribers is directed to the announcement in another column. The weekly edition of this paper is now permanently enlarged to Eight Pages or 64 columns of solid reading matter. While making this announcement we are also enabled to state that the subscription rates are reduced to the following scale:

For one year.....$2.50
For six months.....1.50
For three months.....75

Postage to any part of the Dominion, the United States and the United Kingdom will be FREE. Remittances may be made in money order, draft, postage stamps or cash.

ACCIDENT ON THE C. P. R.

Two Lives Lost and Several Injured.

YALE, May 15.—The regular mail and passenger train, on her way down this morning, at 4 a. m., went through a trestle sixty feet in height near Penny's, locomotive and all. The cars, except passenger coaches, went down the gulch, totally wrecking them, and killing the fireman and brakeman inside instantly. The express agent, conductor and mail clerk Armstrong were slightly injured. The cause of the accident was late rains having caused the river to rise, washing away two large bents in the trestle. Heavy damage sustained.

No regular mail or passenger train will leave here to-day. The steamer Adelaide just arrived with a large freight and many passengers. Purser Sharpe reports business very brisk on the river. Heavy rains up the country the last three or four days have improved the crops wonderfully.

The Railway Accident.

The following telegrams were received from Mr. G. B. Wright in reference to the railway accident and washout:

POINT HARMON, May 15.

The sudden washout is owing to recent heavy rains. It ditched the train on a trestle near Ashcroft. One brakesman was killed and the fireman badly hurt. The passengers are all unhurt.

Later advices show that the washout on the railway was caused by the bursting of Barnes dam.

G. B. WRIGHT.

Police Court.

Regina *v.* Greer.—This case was again before Mr. Johnson, P. M., yesterday. Charlie, one of the Indians from whom the alleged forged deed was procured gave his testimony. It was similar to that adduced when he was examined before the committee of the local legislature appointed to report on squatters' claims. Mr. J. C. Hughes, of New Westminster, acted as interpreter. The crown not being ready with their witnesses the case was further remanded until Monday next at 11 a. m.

Celebration of the 24th.

The committee for the Queen's Birthday sports met at the City Hall last evening to finally make the arrangements for the carrying out of the programme. Mr. Duck in the chair.

The collectors reported about $800 as the result of their labors so far.

A letter was read from Capt. Alington, R. N., stating that the torpedo explosion would occur at 11:30 a. m., off Beaker's ledge, opposite Beacon Hill.

A letter from J. Stuart Yates was read, stating that his grounds at the Gorge would be thrown open to the public, but requesting that no fires be lighted as it would endanger property.

Every true horticulturist takes a just pride in growing large, sound, handsome fruit.

What Some People Say.

That grasshoppers are devastating portions of California.

That British railways carried 685,000,000 passengers last year.

That there are 513,441 volumes in the congressional library.

That New Hampshire has the longest lived people on the average.

That incandescent lighting is increasing at a rapid rate in Chicago.

That lobsters may be as rare as buffaloes to the next generation.

That there are more than 2,500 lady physicians in the United States.

That an Indian chief's scalp is hung in a Germantown window.

That New York is suffering with an epidemic of amateur theatricals.

That yellow flowers are favorite table decorations, arranged in masses.

That there is a house in Dublin, Ireland, which is worth a rent of only $40. Eight families are crowded into it, who pay a rent of $410 a year. The owner, it is said, is a gentleman of wealth, who lives abroad. He ought to be wealthy if he gets such returns on all his investments.

That at Soda Springs, Idaho, on the 3rd inst., E. T. Williams, a hotel proprietor, while in the saloon of a man named Baker, commenced scuffling for sport with the proprietor. Baker's 9-year-old son, thinking that Williams and his father were fighting, got a revolver and fired at Williams, the ball entering the right breast, passed through his heart and killed him instantly.

That the fate of Frank Vizitelly, artist and correspondent of the London Graphic, is considered sealed. He was supposed to be the only survivor of Hicks Pasha's army at El Obeid in November, 1883, and was known to be a prisoner in El Mahdi's camp for some months after that disaster. Nothing has been heard of him since November, 1884, and even the most hopeful of his friends have given him up for lost.

That the latest opposition charge against the government, made through the Standard, is that it has appointed a colored man as constable on Salt Spring Island. Why not carry the objection a little further and declare that none but blonde men should draw pay from the government? At the same time it would be only just to enact that blondes should bear all the taxes.

That Uncle Mose approached the county clerk the other day to obtain a marriage license. The clerk, in order to poke fun at the old man, said seriously: "I hope the bride has got twenty-five cents in cash, for the legislature has passed a law forbidding us to issue a license unless the bride has that amount." "Jess go ahead wid de papers, boss," said Uncle Mose, approaching the clerk, and then he leaned over and whispered in his ear, "dar's reliable rumors about a dollar and a quarter."

That a correspondent with an audacity worthy of the evening paper to which he writes, while pretending to identify himself with the workingmen of the province actually finds fault with the government for refusing to pay a Chinese whom the janitor of one of the public schools had employed. The feeling of the white workingman is too well known for it to be for a moment supposed that such a remark would emanate from one of himself, and the only logical explanation is that the writer of "Laborer's" letter is some querulous employee of Chinese—possibly an owner of tenement houses occupied by them.

The Chinese Case.

The jury were sent out yesterday in the case of Loo Choo Fan vs. Loo Chuck Fan, and after being out three hours came in with the intelligence that they could not agree. This seemed passing strange, for his lordship charged directly in favor of the plaintiff, and it was thought that the jury would return a verdict without leaving the box. His lordship said that he was surprised after the very able manner in which the case had been presented, the length of time occupied by the court and lawyers and witnesses in placing the evidence fully before them, that they could not find a verdict. He would not discharge them, as they requested, but would lock them up until they found a verdict. Consequently they were given their tea at the juryroom and left to agree fully or the reverse. Three hold out against five.

During the evening they amused themselves by singing comic songs, varied by the "Sweet Bye-and-Bye" and other hymns. The funny man of the party told some scale minstrel jokes while a musical member of the eight procured a couple of bones and accompanied the songs. At eleven o'clock they were singing "Rule Britannia," "We won't go home till morning," etc. A clog dance or two was indulged in and about 11:30 they seemed still to be happy, but no doubt would be otherwise when morning commenced to dawn.

The case is a most peculiar one, involving nearly $200,000, and should it be decided in the plaintiff's favor, there will likely be criminal proceedings taken against some of the Chinese for intimidating witnesses.

A WALL OF WATER.

Was it a Tidal Wave that Struck the Germanic in Mid-Ocean?

A passenger of the White Star steamer Germanic which was hit by a big wave on Easter Sunday morning and put back to Liverpool, said:

"We were almost all in our staterooms when the wave hit us. I felt a big jolt, and I jumped up and went on deck. Everybody crowded out of the staterooms. A wave had flooded the ship, and some of the people had been awakened by the water pouring over them. The wave had hit the steamer on the starboard side, forward of the deck reading-room. It washed away the steam hoisting gear which is fastened to the deck. It knocked a hole through the reading-room and smashed in the starboard side of the staterooms. The starboard side of the reading-room was smashed in and the bridge was carried away. The iron guards were curled up like paper, and the wheelhouse was smashed. Seven boats out of the ten were carried way. A lot of water was shipped, but the fires were not put out. We hove to and the roll was called, and one seaman failed to answer. He had been washed overboard. Many passengers and seamen were bruised, and one had his skull fractured. Capt. Kennedy, who was on the bridge when the wave hit us, had been knocked senseless. He told me how it looked afterwards.

"'I was standing on the bridge looking ahead,' said the captain, 'when I suddenly saw a solid block of water standing in front of the ship. It came all of a sudden, and before I could give any orders it hit us. It wasn't like an ordinary wave, but more like a block of stone.'"

Island Railway.

It is rumored that the section of the Island railway between Victoria and Esquimalt will soon be given out by contract.

School Tasks.

Complaint was made by several members of the school board at its last meeting that pupils were giving very large numbers of words to write at home as punishment for slight misdemeanors. This is undoubtedly a severe way in which to punish a pupil, and it is questionable whether it is productive of any good result. Six hours per day study in the schools is a long task for children, and then the preparation at home for the following day's lessons adds a couple of hours to this, a hard day's work for an adult. The injudiciousness of giving extra tasks such as those complained of is thus apparent, and its infliction should only be indulged in in extreme cases, if at all.

Most people suppose that the manufacture of tobacco consists merely of taking the leaf and pressing it into plugs. The fact is, however, that the process is a very delicate one, and the least false step will injure the flavor. The leaf must be carefully attended to for months after it leaves the planter's hands. It must neither dry too quick or too slowly. Even after it has reached the factory the utmost delicacy of manipulation is required. The weather must be carefully studied, for if there is too much moisture in the air when it is pressed it will mould, and the same will happen if too much moisture is sprinkled upon it for the purpose of opening the leaf. Again, if it is overdried in the oven it will turn crisp, and will nip the tongue in smoking. It is by careful attention to all these points that the "Myrtle Navy" has been brought to such perfection. The firm who manufacture it have their own storehouses in Virginia, and from the time the leaf leaves the planter's hands until it is turned out of the factory, months afterwards, in plugs, it is under the care of their skilled and trusted employés.

ENGLAND'S QUETTA RAILWAY.—It is stated that the railway plant for the military line through the Bolan Pass to Quetta, which is to be at once commenced, has been in a great extent stored in India for some years. When the Quetta railway extension was originally projected, rails and sleepers were collected for the purpose. Some miles of these rails were subsequently used elsewhere, but the store has lately been replenished by the dispatch of material from England. The hired transport Duke of Devonshire, on proceeding to Suakim with troops six weeks ago, took out many tons of flange rails, which, after debarking her troops, she conveyed to Bombay. Several ships going out to India within the last two months have had tonnage of metal rails, and it is understood that sufficient plant has now been collected for the construction of the projected line.—*London Times.*

WHO STRUCK WALL?—About 1 o'clock this morning in the Germania saloon, Joe Wall, a tailor at Levy's on Johnson street, was attacked by an inmate of the saloon and received a terrible cut over the eye and another on the cheek. The proprietor then took Mr. Wall in hand and threw him headlong out of the door to the sidewalk. When he showed up at this office his face and shirt was covered with blood, his bald head was hatless and he looked generally demoralized. Saloons of this character should receive the attention of the police.

A DEPLORABLE CASE.—Conversation on the streets yesterday turned upon recent developments in the case of a member of the legal fraternity, who has become involved in difficulty and for whom a writ of *capias* has been issued. It is supposed that he has left the country to escape the law. Two highly respectable families are thus plunged in trouble on account of the acts of one, and are the objects of the unjust reflections which a public are always ready to make about those connected with an offending member.

THE alarm of fire last evening was caused by burning brush near Kempster's brickyard, beyond the Gorge, and fully three miles from town. The fire was so deceptive when viewed from the town that it was at first supposed to be at the junction of Craigflower and Esquimalt roads; but, like the Scotch Will o' the Wisp, the nearer one got to it the further off it seemed.

THE DAISY.—This new addition to the steamer fleet of the port was out on a trial trip the other day and developed a good rate of speed. Owing to the fact that the boiler was built in England without government supervision and thus no certificate of its capacity given, the inspector here will only allow a certain head of steam. The owners have communicated with Ottawa on the subject.

THE STREETS.—Gangs of men have been busily engaged removing all accumulation of filth from the principal streets during the past week. Exertions are being made by the street committee to place the thoroughfares in as healthy a state as possible.

RIFLE MEETING.—The rifle shooting at Clover Point this afternoon at one o'clock promises to be a most interesting affair. About $400 in prizes are to be shot for. Only members in uniform will be allowed to compete.

THE steamer Salem, valued at $16,000, and loaded with hay, was sunk in Columbia river on the 14th inst.

WITH OTTER.

The Attack Near Battleford.

The Government Troops Ambushed

But Fight Their Way Out.

BATTLEFORD.

A SUDDEN ATTACK—AS IF A TRAP HAD BEEN SET.

BATTLEFORD, N. W. T., May 6.—Col. Otter, with 320 troops, started to Poundmaker's reserve on Friday afternoon, drove all night, and at 5:15 Saturday morning began a seven hours' engagement with the Indians. Eight of our men were killed and twenty wounded. The attack was begun by the Indians suddenly, and it looked

AS IF A TRAP HAD BEEN SET

for us, into which we ran. The enemy was very strong, estimated at six hundred, and fought fiercely from cover, while we were comparatively open to their fire, fighting from the brow of a hill over a coulee. Five minutes after the first shot was fired, we appeared to be completely surrounded. Fifty men were sent back to clear the rear. We had just passed through a deep gully, thickly wooded and a swift stream running on one side. The men sent back

MADE A BRAVE DASH

and accomplished their object, thus lessening the danger of the situation. The fighting, which was all skirmishing, was over a large and uneven stretch of country, and our men were working at great disadvantage, but they stuck to it like heroes, and with bullets whistling in on them from almost every direction, never flinched for an instant. Every corps continued steady on the aggressive, and by ten o'clock the enemy was almost silenced. They resumed again shortly, and the

FIGHTING WAS AGAIN HEAVY.

The artillery, with the two seven pounders and the Gatling, did good work repeatedly firing the enemy from their cover, and at eleven o'clock the enemy were again almost completely silenced. Col. Otter had already given orders to withdraw from a position of serious disadvantage. The Indians, observing this, endeavored to cut off the retreat of our men, who fought their way out inch by inch, the front always to the enemy. No praise is sufficient to describe the bravery of our officers and men. Every one

SHOWED HIMSELF A HERO.

Col. Otter with his staff was in every part of the field, find his orders were as cool and decided as in a sham battle. The men were badly used up before the withdrawal began. Our force comprised seventy-five Mounted Police and scouts, B Battery, the Ottawa Guards, C Company Infantry School, part of the Queen's Own Rifles, and Battleford Rifles. It is thought that from thirty to sixty of the enemy were killed. The column returned to Battleford the same night. The wounded are all doing well.

WITH MIDDLETON.

The Work of the Scouts

Before the Battle of Batouche.

FISH CREEK, N. W. T., May 4.—A reconnoitring party under Gen. Middleton and Lord Melgund proceeded down the river beyond Gabriel Dumont's Crossing on Friday and met with no resistance. Just before reaching Gabriel's five mounted halfbreeds, evidently pickets, were seen to rush from a house and gallop away towards Batouche's, getting out of sight before chase could be given. On visiting the house it was seen that they were

ABOUT TO SAY DINNER.

There was a fire in the hearth, meat cooking, and kettle boiling. Linen covered with blood was found at the house, which had evidently been used for bandages for the wounded halfbreeds. It was discovered that the covering of a feather bed and a papoose bag had been used for a similar purpose. The houses of the halfbreeds between here and Gabriel's are deserted, and all the portable articles hastily carried away in a cart train, of which the track can still be seen. Some of the houses were locked and the windows boarded. In one place a cat, and in several others hens were left. At Gabriel's, where there are five large double houses and a store, also deserted, a billiard table and other goods were found, and some letters dated of recent date, but of no importance.

SCOUTING.

French's scouts proceeded two miles further down into the very heavy timber, but saw no signs of the enemy. The houses are all substantially built, and at every place a fair quantity of ground broken in the vicinity.

Thirty-three head of cattle were captured and brought to the camp.

RETREATED.

Gen. Middleton and Lord Melgund are of the opinion that all the halfbreeds and Indians have retreated and taken up a position at Batoche's.

THE WOUNDED.

The wounded are at Saskatoon and well cared for, Drs. Douglas, Roddick and Pelletier, and a corps of medical students having come overland from the boat.

Leithbridge and Hislop are the only cases regarded as dangerous, and strong hopes are entertained for their recovery.

AN ENVOY.

Last night the eldest of White Cap's two sons, prisoners in this camp, was sent to Batoche with instructions to return in two days with news. He expressed himself anxious to go if assured of the safety of his brother, who is still a prisoner.

FOREIGN OFFICE IMBECILES DENOUNCED.

The Fighting Cock of Woodstock Shows his Spurs.

LONDON, May 6.—Lord Randolph Churchill, addressing a conservative meeting in London to-night, complained that the shelving of the Komaroff incident was effected under the ridiculous pretence of arbitration. He protested against the removal of the commission on the delimitation to London to be dealt with by imbeciles in the foreign office. Russia, he said, had always objected to the presence of Gen. Lumsden, and deliberately insulted him in the face of all Asia by not sending Gen. Zelemoy, the Russian commissioner, to meet him. Now the government had gratified Russia by recalling Gen. Lumsden. The English people were being humbugged into national and imperial ruin. The vote of credit like the resolution to smash the Mahdi and Mr. Gladstone's great speech, was all sham. The ministers, he said, were election agents, not statesmen, and it was time to refuse them supplies.

IMPROVEMENT.—Messrs. Bossi & Giesselman have commenced the erection of a second story on their premises corner of Broad and Yates streets.

The Only Woman Freemason.

The uninitiated, says the London Telegraph, are in the habit of asking: If Freemasonry be such an admirable institution, why is it not thrown open to everyone; and, furthermore, if it be good for men why are not women also entrusted with its secrets? To this the Freemasons reply that were the privileges of the order to be indiscriminately dispensed, its mysteries, becoming familiar, would lose their veil and sink into disregard; and, when pressed they are fain to admit that on one occasion a lady was actually passed through the degrees of the craft and emerged a full Freemason. It would appear that at some time during the seconding quarter of the 18th century the meetings of lodge 44 used to be held at Doneraile House, the seat of Lord Doneraile, in Ireland, his lordship being worshipful master. Lord Doneraile had a sister, Hon. Elizabeth St. Leger—afterwards Hon. Mrs. Aldworth—and the young lady so managed affairs that she possessed herself of all the secrets of the craft. The "Hon. Mrs. Aldworth" will be remembered, were an old lady, family nickname "Handsome Jack Sallinger," one of the founders of the "Hell Fire Club" and the Doncaster St. Leger, a boon companion of the "first gentleman in Europe," inherited all the curiosity and liveliness of the Doneraile blood. Some say that the Hon. Elizabeth secreted herself in a clock-case, others that she witnessed the working through a crevice in the wall of the apartment sacred to the mysteries of the craft. What were the members of lodge 44 to do under the circumstances? Having discovered her, had they let her go free she might have revealed secrets, close kept since the days of the building of the temple, to all the pariah, and so to society at large. We may suppose that her brother, the worshipful master, and the officers and brethren assembled were hard put how to act for the best. Women might not become Freemasons. Yet here was a woman who, so far as a knowledge of some of the most important secrets, never revealed to the outer or popular world, was already one. The constitutions did not provide for such a contingency, and it became necessary to create a precedent. Thereupon the Hon. Elizabeth St. Leger, only daughter of Arthur, first Viscount Doneraile, was brought before the authorities of lodge 44 and solemnly inducted into the secrets and mysteries, the signs and tokens of a Free and Accepted. What was imparted to the lady is not likely to be made public. For, as one of the most learned Masons had laid down, "of all the arts which Masons practice, the art of secrecy particularly distinguishes them, and that it is agreeable to the Deity himself may be easily conceived from the glorious example which He gives in concealing from mankind the secrets of his providence. The wisest of men cannot pry into the Arcana of heaven, nor can they tell what to-day what to-morrow may bring forth." Indeed, Hiperates and Angerona were not more sacred to silence among the Greeks and Romans than is all that goes on in a lodge closefiled to the discreet Freemason. Whatever was told Miss St. Leger, under the seal of secrecy, she possessed the conscience and prudence never to let pass her lips. The Irish Masons revere her memory, and her likeness, in full Masonic clothing, is still preserved.

Facts Not Generally Known.

The States of Maryland, Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, and West Virginia have never had Lieutenant-Governors.

The United States is the only civilized country in the world, declares a former superintendent of schools in Boston, where teachers do not hold their positions by permanent tenure.

The present reigning dynasty of Japan dates back 2,546 years, and is considered the oldest in the world. The records of Japan are accurately preserved for that time. All the nations now called civilized, without exception, had their beginning since then.

It is estimated that there are 200,000,500 Mohammedans in the world, of whom 6,000,000 are in Southeastern Europe and 20,000,000 in Asiatic Turkey, 7,500,000 in Persia, 25,000,000 in Arabia and Central Asia, and 60,000,000 in Hindostan. Considerably more than half of them are in Asia, and the remainder in Africa, except the 6,000,000 in European Turkey.

Corn cannot be cultivated above 50 degrees north latitude on the northeast shores of Asia, although in the interior it measures in that latitude 62 degrees. On the eastern shores of America the northern limit of its growth is 50 degrees, and on the western 57 degrees, while in the intermediate section it is known to go as far as 65 degrees. In Norway it grows at 70 degrees.

No English peer or peeress can be arrested for debt, need serve on juries, or be called out in the militia, and they do not swear on oath, but on honor, except when witnesses in any court. They can sit in any court in England with their hats on, can wear a sort of uniform as peers, can carry arms, but not in their pockets, and it they commit treason or felony, they must be tried by their peers.

Considerable increase in the mortality from cancer in Great Britain during the past thirty years is shown by the forty-third annual report of the English Registrar-General. In the ten years 1860-69 there were 80,049 deaths from the disease, and the annual increase was 248. During 1870-79 the number of deaths from cancer was 111,301, and the average increase 320. Thus, in 1860-69 the increase was about 2,000, in 1860-69 it was 2,400, and in 1870-79 was 3,200.

Near the equator perpetual snow covers the mountains at the height of 15,207 feet; in latitude 60 deg. it is found at 3,818 feet, and in 75 deg. at 1,016 feet. The main cause of this is not that the solar rays possess less heat in the higher regions, as the contrary has been proved, but that the portions of the earth's crust projecting far up into the atmosphere, as is the case with high mountains, possess less of the interior heat of the earth, being more subject to cooling by radiation, which has caused their temperature to descend to such a very low degree that even a midday tropical sun cannot raise it to 32 deg. F.

A private in an English infantry regiment receives 25 cents a day; a lance corporal, 31 cents; corporal, 41 cents; lance-sergeant, 50 cents; sergeant, 58 cents; color-sergeant, 75 cents; and quartermaster-sergeant, $1.00. These rates are subject to the following reductions, viz.: One cent a day for washing, and 6 cents a day for groceries and vegetables. These consist of tea, coffee, sugar, potatoes and green vegetables. After these deductions, then, the pay of a lineaman is 17 cents a day; but, as he has to provide his own underclothing, a further reduction of 2 cents daily is made, thus reducing his actual pay to 15 cents. The pay of the privates in the famous Coldstream Guards averages only about 10 per cent. in advance of these rates, with equal reductions for messing and washing.

SCOTCH DYSPEPSIA.—Minks—"Yes, sir, I have oatmeal on my table every morning. I consider it the most wholesome, most—"

Jinks—"But see here, Minks, don't you know that oatmeal is the principal dish in Scotland, and that country is a nation of dyspeptics!"

"Oh, it's not the oatmeal that causes dyspepsia over there."

"Why, what is it?"

"The bagpipes."—*Philadelphia Call.*

Russia Afield.

A country with over 1,000,000 men under arms on the peace establishment, and with a chance of easy expansion to double that number, which practically means unlimited soldiers, seems at first sight to be irrestible from a military point of view. A huge network of railways, stretching across the great empire to its utmost limit, and designed primarily for military purposes, so that it frequently passes large cities at a distance, rather than deviate from a straight, swift course, furnishes the means of transportation. In Central Asia, as the Russian outposts are advanced, the railway and telegraph creep up behind them, so that instant touch with St. Petersburg is always possible, and the whole force of the empire is "shoulder to shoulder." This thoroughness of detail will serve to show how strong Russia may be in Central Asia, even while the numbers of the army there are not formidable. Yet it is certain that the trans-Caspian force numbers more than 150,000 men, and that a large army could confront the Afghan defence of the frontier. Money is the main trouble in Russia, but somehow, nations that find a difficulty in raising money in time of peace can always easily get it in time of war. Neither men nor money seem to be lacking in Russia to back up the determination to advance on the British defence of Afghanistan.

India as a Fighting Power.

If a war in Afghanistan ever takes place, the bulk of the British army opposing the Russian advance will be formed of native troops. There are 190,000 of these on the regular Indian establishment, and these are supplemented by about the same number of military frontier police—soldiers to all intents and purposes, and of equal, if not superior, quality to the "regulars." Thus about 300,000 armed men are under orders of the government in India, without a single European being sent from England. All these native troops are officered by Englishmen. These troops vary in quality from the Madrai and Bengal Sepoys to the martial Sikhs or the daring Ghoorkas, the fighting qualities of the two latter being equal to anything they are likely to encounter. The armies of the native independent states are generally at the command of England, for they would the likely offered—as they have been before—and accepted, and each could, and doubtless would furnish, a contingent for the service. Their armies aggregate 300,000 men. Then there is a population of 200,000,000 to recruit from, so that Lord Beaconsfield's remark that a million soldiers could be easily raised in India, is a reasonable one.

From the foregoing figures it is seen that over a million men are under arms already in the service of Queen Victoria and the Empress of India, with indefinite powers of expansion, leaving out the colonial forces of Canada, Australia, the Cape, the West Indies, etc.

Boynton, the Swimmer, Plays a Practical Joke on British Men-of-War.

NEW YORK, May 7.—On Tuesday night Paul Boynton took a large torpedo shell, to which he fitted a brick, and, approaching the British man-of-war Garnet, fastened it to the hull. He was discovered while leaving the vessel and shouted to a British officer on deck that there was a torpedo on the bottom of his. The British tars became terribly excited and pursued Boynton in a steam launch, capturing him and several friends who accompanied him in a small boat. The party were taken aboard the Garnet as prisoners, but were released when explanations had been made and the torpedo shell examined. Boynton says the British admiralty once made fun of his rubber dress and he wanted to get even with them.

LIQUOR LAWS OF CAPE TOWN.—They have a temperance law at the Cape, in South Africa, which contains at least one novel feature. It is a law providing for the punishment of any person in the liquor trade who sells or gives liquor to an habitual drunkard. The penalty is £5, and the habitual drunkard is held to be any man who has been convicted of drunkenness three times within the period of three months. And in order that there may be no mistake as to the identity of the man in question, it is made the duty of a constable or other police officer to take him in charge and exhibit him personally to every liquor-seller within the local jurisdiction.

Bee notes for April: "Buy a bee book, subscribe for a bee paper, and read them. Melt up old scraps of comb into wax, before they become infested by the bee-moth's larvæ. Remove bees from clamps. Do not wait until swarms are hanging on the bushes, before getting the hives and honey-boxes in readiness. Deside upon a plan of operations for the season, and adhere to it as closely as circumstances allow.

Eastern Canada Mail.

(Per Nort'ern Pacific Railway.)

WINDSOR, Ont., May 5.—John Martin, a Frenchman living in Sandwich, West, came to town to see Harris' circus. He joined the giddy throng around the ticket organ. While there a shot was heard, and Martin suddenly pressing his hand to his heart exclaimed "I'm shot!" Blood gushed from his mouth and side, and but for prompt medical aid he would have bled to death. The bullet struck directly over the heart, but could not be found. The shot was fired by a female attache of the side-show, professionally known as 'Mrs. Jessie James,' whose principal act is to shoot at an apple on a boy's head, a la William Tell. The boy usually stands in front of an iron target, and the bullet after passing through the apple, strikes the target and falls harmless to the ground. The boy who played Tell's son on Saturday was about six inches taller than the target, and the leaden messenger went speeding on its way until it buried itself in Martin's breast. Dr. Casgrain stated that he did not think that Martin was dangerously wounded, and the circus manager struck a bee line for Sandwich West, fully prepared to pay handsomely for the damage.

TORONTO, May 8.—Ex-reeve Wm. McGuire, of Amherstburg, has commenced an action for $10,000 damages against ex-reeve George Middleditch, of the same place. Mr. McGuire was recently unseated by judge Horne on the ground of insufficient property qualification.

THE END JUSTIFIES THE MEANS.—Brown (to minister)—Mr. R. Smith, and I were talking about the possibility of cholera this summer, and I bet him $200 that we wouldn't have it. Do you think I am likely to win the—

Minister (horrified)—My dear sir, I am shocked at the idea of you and Mr. Smith making a bet. It is sinful and bad in every—

Brown—The one who wins is to put a stained glass memorial window in the church, and—

Minister—You bet the cholera won't come!

Brown—Yes, sir.

Minister—Well, I think you will win, Brother Brown.—*N. Y. Sun.*

YESTERDAY'S DISPATCHES.

FRANCE.

PARIS, May 15.—Mr. Morton, the retiring U. S. minister, yesterday presented his letters of recall to President Grevy, after which they lunched together. Afterwards Mr. McLean presented his credentials to the president and delivered an address, to which M. Grevy replied, welcoming the new minister and thanking him for the sentiments expressed in his address. M. Grevy assured Mr. McLean he would always find in France a most sympathetic co-operation in everything calculated to promote the the welfare of the American republic.

EGYPT.

SUAKIM, May 15.—The brigade of guards have been ordered home.

AN EDITOR AND A LAWYER INDULGE IN A FIST FIGHT.

Guatemala to be Divided Up.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13.—Considerable excitement was created this afternoon on Kearny street, near Bush, by a "fistic" encounter, which occurred between two well-known men of this city. The participants were George W. Tyler, one of the attorneys for Mrs. Sarah Althes Sharon, in the Sharon divorce case, and Frank M. Pixley, proprietor and editor of the Argonaut, a weekly paper published here. It appears from the testimony of eye witnesses that Tyler undertook to censure Pixley for the course of his journal in regard to the Sharon case. Mr. Pixley wearied of the argument, and, to cut the matter short, coolly informed Mr. Tyler that he was a liar. Tyler made a poke at the smiling face of the journalist, but, in the language of the renowned Jem Mace, "the blow hit there" when Tyler struck. Then Pixley let loose his right hand and smote Mr. Tyler on the nose. The lawyer was staggered, and before he could recover Pixley smote him again. This ended the fracas, and friends separated the combatants.

Mr. Pixley tells the affair as follows: "I was walking on the street, and George W. Tyler stopped me and began to use abusive language, accusing me of doing certain things through my paper. I called him a liar, and he struck at me, but I dodged my head to one side to avoid the blow. I then struck him in the face and and called him a cowardly blackguard, and he went off to get a patch on his nose apparently satisfied. The trouble arose out of my strictures on the Sharon case. Don't forget to say that he went to get a patch on his nose, for, by God, he will have to wear one there."

Pneumonia and its Causes.

Pneumonia becomes every year more prominent as a fatal disease. This spring, especially, it has excited general alarm by its extent and virulence. In Massachusetts a register has been kept for twenty-seven years, showing the number of deaths due to each prominent class of diseases, and it appears that while in 1857 there were 1,075 deaths from pneumonia, in 1883 there were 6,000. Since 1857 there has been an increase of 80 per cent. During that time the population has increased about 32 per cent; so that the disease is growing almost twice as fast as the population.

The returns for 1884 are not all compiled yet, but it is certain that the mortality from pneumonia was not less than in 1883. During February, 1884, in cities and towns representing an average population of 1,350,000—perhaps 35 per cent of the State—there were 275 deaths from pneumonia; in 1885, for the same period, there were 369. The number has been increasing in Boston every week since March 1st, and last week there were in that city alone 44 fatal cases—the largest number reported in any one week for five years. Between October 1st and April 18th, there were 770 deaths from pneumonia in that city. The percentage of deaths from acute lung diseases has risen from 7.11 in 1881 and 9.22 in 1881, to 13.48 in 1882 and probably 15 or 16 in 1884.

The exact causes of the diseases are still unknown. Investigations made by Surgeon Sternberg, U. S. A., point to a microscopic fungus in the saliva as the probable cause. The secretions of pneumonia reveal under the microscope the presence of low organisms. But then it is also known that vegetable organisms are in a healthy saliva so that it is not by any means certain that micro ccens produces the disease.

Whatever be the cause, physicians have agreed that the proper treatment is to keep up the patient's strength and general health. People whose systems are in sound condition are in little danger from pneumonia. No medicine yet discovered reaches the seat of disease or greatly retards its development. It is not impossible that a specific may be found for pneumonia, as there has been for croup; but until then it seems that little can be done to check its ravages beyond keeping up the general tone of the system.—*N. Y. Mail-Express.*

Central America.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 14.—The Call has advices that a treaty of peace and alliance was entered into between Honduras, San Salvador, Costa Rica and Nicaragua on April 12th. Two days after the signing of the treaty President Zaldivar, of San Salvador, issued a circular addressed to his ministers and his generals, stating that as he only wished peace and harmony, he had accepted through the mediation of the several Central American States a proposition proclaiming in Guatemala as well as in San Salvador a decree granting a general amnesty to all involved in the late revolution. President Zaldivar, besides exacting a war indemnity of $10,000,000, says that to maintain peace in the future it will be necessary to dismember Guatemala, leaving to that country only sufficient land to equalize her strength and wealth with the other Central American States. He asks the other states to aid him in this project.

House-Hunting Hints.

(Rochester Democratic.)

No house should ever be built without plenty of closets. They are as essential to female happiness as beauty and hairplus. They should be of decent size, too. Closets large enough for a bandbox and six dresses are as unsatisfactory as "unkissed kisses." No house should be without a bathroom. It is absolutely indispensable. Without it perfect cleanliness is not possible. A washbowl or tub can never take its place. A house had better have it than a parlor. If one must be sacrificed, there should be no hesitation in making a decision. A parlor is an ornament and ornamentation must be subordinated to usefulness.

FOR BEHRINGS SEA.—Schooner San Diego, Capt. Hagman, of S. F., which has been cruising here for several months, left this morning at 4 o'clock for Behrings Sea on a sealing expedition. The City of San Diego left for the same point yesterday afternoon on a sealing hunt. They will return some time in September.

THE RIVAL WAR SHIPS.

The Garnet and Strelock Again in Company in an American Port.

NEW YORK, May 2.—The English man-of-war Garnet, which is apparently following the Russian covette Strelock, arrived opposite the Highlands at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Thence it seamed slowly up to quarantine, where it anchored at a little after 7:30 o'clock. Guided by its lights, hung fore and aft a reporter put off from quarantine not long after the anchor had been dropped. At close quarters the cruiser looks more formidable than at the first glance. She is a brig, with a long, low, black hull, from the smokestack a thin cloud of smoke issuing, and a number of the crew were still on deck or about the rigging, putting matters in shape for the night. As the row-boat neared the larger vessel the call "Boat ahoy! who are you?" rang over the choppy waves. As the boat drew alongside the chief officer stepped down a few steps of the gangway ladder and held on to hand ropes to talk. "The name of our captain is Hand," he said, and "we are of 2,200 tonnage and 2,500 horse-power. There are 240 persons on board including the officers. Our vessel was built about ten years ago at Chatham. We carry twelve sixty-four-pound guns of about four inch diameter. They are rifle and muzzle loaders. We have no breech